

## HPB Newsletter



### Contents

- Message from the President  
*Markus Büchler*
- Asian–Pacific Hepato–Pancreato–Biliary Association Update
- American Hepato–Pancreato–Biliary Association (AHPBA) Update
- European Hepato–Pancreato–Biliary Association (EHPBA) Update  
*Jacques Belghiti*
- 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the IHPBA, Mumbai, India  
*Palepu Jagannath*
- HPB Medallion
- Warren Fellowship Announcement 2007–2008
- Executive Secretariat Information
- Future Meetings: Regional and World

### Message from the President

**Markus Büchler**



We had great meetings of the three regional associations – the A-HPBA in Fukuoka, the AHPBA in Las Vegas, and recently the EHPBA in Verona. Again, “Many thanks!” to all colleagues of the regional associations who organized this excellent meetings with so much enthusiasm and supported the idea of a worldwide HPB network.

There were again excellent applications for the seventh Kenneth W. Warren Fellowship in 2008. Hiromichi Ito has been selected and will conduct his research on “Gene expression signature as a predictor of recurrence and survival after hepatic resection of colorectal metastasis” at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York USA. Congratulations!

Our focus right now is on the upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the IHPBA in Mumbai, February 27<sup>th</sup>–March 2<sup>nd</sup>. I would like to personally invite you to participate in this conference to make this World Congress not only an unforgettable event in India but also to consolidate the role of the IHPBA World Congress as the leading scientific conference in our field!

We have attracted more than 50 colleagues to become members of the IHPBA since January 2007. This can be seen as the first result of our ongoing membership campaign to further increase IHPBA membership and strengthen our role as the leading association in HPB. We will work hard to move forward and would like to invite you to support us in our efforts to increase membership – talk with your colleagues and advertise the benefits of our association!

Looking forward to see you all in Mumbai!

### Asian–Pacific Hepato–Pancreato–Biliary Association Update

The inaugural A-HPBA meeting was held in Fukuoka, Japan on 21–23 March, 2007. The local Chairman for the meeting was Prof Masao Tanaka and the meeting was held under the Presidency of Prof Tadahiro Takada. This first meeting was an outstanding success with approximately 500 participants from the Asia Pacific region. As is typical to all HPB meetings, there was a mixture of keynote addresses, symposia and original presentations. As evidenced by the lively discussion and high attendance all of these presentations were highly successful.

The meeting in Fukuoka saw a change of office bearers, and James Tooili was honoured to accept the Presidency of the organisation over the next two years. During the general assembly the Constitution was unanimously approved by the members as was the nomination of the President Elect Dr Joseph Lau.

The next meeting of the A-PHPBA shall be held in Bangkok Thailand and already much work has been done to produce an excellent program which reflects the expertise and talent of the region.

The general assembly voted for Melbourne, Australia to host the meeting in 2011. This meeting shall be hosted by the newly formed Australian/New Zealand HPB Association.

Our association is the most diverse of all of the regional associations in that it represents a wide variety of countries which are situated in very many different geographical areas of the world. Furthermore, the Association represents the largest population area where Liver, Pancreatic and Biliary disorders make up most of the commonest diseases.

We look forward to the development of National Chapters in our region and their contribution to the success of the A-PHPBA.

### ***American Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (AHPBA) Update***

The AHPBA held the 7<sup>th</sup> Americas Congress from April 19–22 in Las Vegas, Nevada. This event marked a new record for attendance and enthusiasm for an AHPBA annual meeting. Registration was over 700. Participants were treated to an outstanding scientific program, developed and led by Dr. Reid Adams, Program Chair. Dr. Adams and his committee assembled an awesome body of scientific work encompassing 270 oral and poster presentations.

The annual meeting was a clear indicator of the enthusiasm, growth, and vigor of the AHPBA. President Sean Mulvihill deserves accolades for his solid leadership during this past year of vigorous growth of the Society. Dr. Adams and his group put together the largest and best program yet.

Current active membership for the AHPBA totals well over 500, and with candidate and senior membership over 600. Growth in membership continues at over 10% per year. Candidate membership is now available for trainees at a reduced dues rate. The Society announced it would continue to sponsor at least two competitive research grants for young investigators in the field of HPB surgery. The AHPBA is working toward establishing more definitive training guidelines for fellowships in HPB surgery in North America. New committees are being added to the organization, and the interest in the membership to participate in the work of the Society is at an all-time high.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Americas Congress meeting will take place at The Marriott Harborview Hotel in Fort Lauderdale, Florida from March 27 to 30, 2008. We look forward to another excellent meeting, returning to the society's more traditional meeting venue of south Florida. We hope that as many of our International HPB colleagues as possible would honor us with their participation in this upcoming meeting.

### ***European Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (EHPBA) Update***

#### ***Jacques Belghiti***

The last meeting of the European HPBA took place in Verona from June 6 to 9, 2007 under the leadership of Claudio Bassi. The congress chairman, Professor Claudio Bassi, should be congratulated for the excellent organization in a difficult sponsoring situation in Italy. This meeting was well balanced with a high quality scientific program and outstanding social activities.

The EHPBA, under the leadership of Dirk Gouma grew stronger as a regional association of IHPBA. Our regional association attracts hundred of HPB surgeons who are establishing a strong network. The great number of academic European HPB surgeons allowed us to present very original and high quality papers and to organize several symposia with excellent discussions.

Should this strength with apparent scientific autonomy lead us to become an independent organization? Certainly not, since a slackening of our bond with the IHPBA will decrease the strength of the international association. A fragile IHPBA will be rapidly compensated by the political development of other regional associations which could develop a formidable presence. I don't want that future meeting of the world community of HPB surgery to take place each year in a single country.

The future of our European chapter necessitates a sufficient budget allowing us to organize meetings every two years where we will present excellent free paper sessions. The proposal of Pierre Alain Clavien to organize a consensus conference each year is a great initiative. The next conference on Cholangiocarcinoma to be held at the end of this year, organized by Jean François Gigot, will inaugurate this initiative. So mark the date of November 30–1st December in Brussels, February 27 to March 3, 2008 for the next IHPBA World Congress in Mumbai and EHPBA Regional Congresses in 2009 in Athens, Greece and 2011 in South Africa.

### ***8th World Congress of the IHPBA – Mumbai, India***

#### ***Palepu Jagannath***

The 8th World Congress of IHPBA is off to a flying start. We had a record submission of 1000 abstracts from all corners of the world. The faculty response is very encouraging with more than 200 international faculty from all the continents agreeing to participate in IHPBA 2008. It is obvious that the World Congress has become a premier academic event. The preparations are well underway.

The scientific program is packed with symposia, exciting debates, master videos and special lectures on current topics.

Many new ideas are introduced including an electronic poster presentation which will simplify the poster presentation and also give adequate time for the presenters to present their work.

Award session would select out the best papers which will be given prime slots. The scientific contributions will be rewarded by the special awards. The abstract selected for the awards will have a complimentary Banquet ticket for 'Indian Panorama'.

The social programs are exciting. The inaugural reception is not to be missed. It will showcase the 'Dances of India' and 'Musical Melody' with an array of instruments.

Highly placed dignitaries are invited for the inaugural ceremony.

'Indian Panorama' likewise would be an evening to remember folk dances of India with participation of the delegates in traditional Indian dress 'Kurta'. You can enjoy 10 different cuisines from 10 different states of India.

The social program for the spouses would be even more exciting with 'Mehendi' or tattoo with 'Heena', Indian cottage industries handicrafts exposition includes bangle making and pottery.

Biomedical industry has supported the congress significantly.

#### Critical dates:

Registration Deadline for Authors	1st December, 2007
End of Reduced Registration	1st December, 2007
Congress Dates	27th February–2nd March, 2008

We look forward to welcoming all of you to India not only for congress but for very well organized pre- and post congress tours, including the 'Taj' one of the Seven Wonders of World and leading World Heritage Sites.

#### **HPB Medallion**

During the EHPBA Congress in Verona Prof. Huug Obertop was awarded the 4th HPB medallion, the IHPBA's distinguished service award. Prof. Obertop graduated from Leyden University and did his surgical training at the Erasmus University Rotterdam. His research ranged from blood pre-treatment and renal allografting (Rotterdam) to cell proliferation in short bowel (MGH, Boston: USA). During the past 25 years he was the leading surgeon in The Netherlands in the development and progress of pancreatic and esophageal surgery, teaching in 4 different University Hospitals and moving from Maastricht to Utrecht before settling in Amsterdam. Prof. Obertop returned

to Rotterdam, where he recently ended his active surgical career.

#### **Warren Fellowship Announcement 2007–2008**



IHPBA is pleased to award Dr. Hiromichi Ito the Warren Fellowship 2007–2008. His research project on gene expression signature as a predictor of recurrence and survival after hepatic resection of colorectal metastasis will be performed at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, under the direction of Dr. William R. Jarnagin. The Warren Fellowship Committee had the difficult task of selecting a recipient from 7 high quality applications.

#### **Nominations**

The IHPBA Nominating Committee will meet during the World Congress in Mumbai, to nominate new members for all IHPBA Committees. New members will be announced on the IHPBA Web-site ([www.ihpba.org](http://www.ihpba.org)) after the World Congress. Nominations are welcome and can be sent to [ihpba@medc.de](mailto:ihpba@medc.de).

#### **Executive Secretariat Information**

##### **IHPBA Executive Secretariat**

Any inquiries about IHPBA events, programs, or membership, should be addressed to Ms Heather Wynn at the IHPBA Executive Secretariat:

IHPBA Executive Secretariat  
Medconnect GmbH  
Bruennsteinstrasse 10  
81541 Munich  
Germany  
Tel.: +49-89-4141 9249

Fax: +49-89-4141 9245  
E-mail: [ihpba@medc.de](mailto:ihpba@medc.de)  
Web site: [www.ihpba.org](http://www.ihpba.org)

***Future Meetings: Regional and World***

***Regional Congresses***

**A-PHPBA, 2nd Asian-Pacific Congress  
Bangkok, Thailand  
25-27 March 2009**

Chairman: Dr. Vibul Sachakul  
Secretariat: Wild Blue Organizer  
19/2 Ekamai 10, Sukumwit 63, Klong Ton  
Wattana, Bangkok 10110 Thailand  
Tel: +662-714-2590-1  
Fax: +662-714-2656-1  
E-mail: [info@2-aphpba2009.org](mailto:info@2-aphpba2009.org)  
Web site: [www.2-aphpba2009.org](http://www.2-aphpba2009.org)

**AHPBA, 9th Americas Congress  
Miami, Florida  
12-15 March 2009**

Chairman: Dr. Bruce Shirmer  
Web site: [www.aphba.org](http://www.aphba.org)

**EHPBA, 8th European Congress  
Athens, Greece  
18-20 June 2009**

Chairman: Prof. Christos Dervenis  
Secretariat: ERA Ltd.  
Tel: +30-210-3634944  
Fax: +30-210-3631690  
E-mail: [info@era.gr](mailto:info@era.gr)  
Web site: [www.ehpba2009.com](http://www.ehpba2009.com)

***World Congresses***

**8th IHPBA World Congress  
Mumbai, India**

**27 February-2 March 2008**

Chairman: Dr. Palepu Jagannath  
Chairman, Dept. of Surgical Oncology,  
Lilavati Hospital  
Secretariat: 22 Alka, 15th Road  
Santacruz-W  
400 054 Mumbai, India  
Tel: +91-22-2640 6841  
Fax: +91-22-2640 6841  
E-mail: [drjagannath@gmail.com](mailto:drjagannath@gmail.com), [jagannath@vsnl.com](mailto:jagannath@vsnl.com)  
Web site: [www.ihpba2008.com](http://www.ihpba2008.com)

**9th IHPBA World Congress  
Buenos Aires, Argentina  
2010**

Chairman: Prof. Eduardo de Santibañes  
Tel: +54-11-4981 4501  
E-mail: [eduardo.desantibanes@hospitalitaliano.org.ar](mailto:eduardo.desantibanes@hospitalitaliano.org.ar)  
Website: [www.ihpba-ba2010.com](http://www.ihpba-ba2010.com)